

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Also, it makes me think America is more like Russia, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan - a lot of the countries WE think need to be freed, where the government mandates or does not interfere with the dissemination of lies, but must follow the line of the government. I am an OWNER of the airwaves as a citizen of this country and am outraged that a TV station is allowed to blow off Federal Election Law to try to bail out the Bush Administration. If Bush had any respect or dignity he would ask that it not be shown. Bush talks about 527 groups and there ads, but here is a broadcasting group with certain ties to the administration who is using THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S airwaves (we own them) as smearing campaign commercial. What happened to fairness and equal time for different ideas and thoughts? Why can't Sinclair not let the PEOPLE decide and show segments of a documentary on Bush losing his flight privileges because of his failure to show up for a medical, his lack of service/questionable service to the country, his past alcohol and cocaine abuse, he and Dick Cheney's ties with Enron, Halliburton, etc., and those are not even lies, like the Kerry thing will be.

You are the FCC and I expect you to and will be watching to see how your stewardship of our airwaves. I'll be watching for further media consolidation, the allowance of licensing of stations like Sinclair. The American people are watching you and expect more.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.